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left, however, to despise ourselves because we still admire. We are helped to formulate the reasons for our admiration and to justify it:

But he does more than inform the mind; he charms the ear . . . . Impossible as is the Ciceronian style to reproduce in its perfection without the gift of a fine ear, its magic is irresistible . . . . It remains the basis of finished modern prose.

There is of course nothing essentially new in method in this presenting of defects and qualities; but the range and thoroughness of Mr. Dimsdale's statement of essentials, in fact and criticism, his evenhandedness of justice, the literary quality of his presentation, and the perspicuity and economy with which he accomplishes his purpose, are characteristics whose combination occurs in no other book with so marked a degree of unity. The literary enthusiast may indeed feel in the case of favorite authors that Mr. Dimsdale is somewhat too hospitable to adverse criticism, or that he praises with too little heat, too little like the lover and too much like the mere friend, or that he is not really the judge, but the over-conscientious pleader who cautiously understates his case for fear of being charged with the attempt to falsify or prove too much. The accuracy-first enthusiast, too, will notice a few misprints and errors: among them "Shormio" (68); "reason" for 'reasons' (138); "regard" for 'regain' (?) (163); death of Tullia placed in 46 (167); "Tigellius the Sardinian" (188); "Nepus" (222); "Macenas" (236); "Marcus Annaeus Seneca, commonly called the Philosopher" (389); the year of the four Emperors given as 68 A.D. (454); "Vitellianist" (489). Errors are not to be wondered at, however, in a book containing so many details. The reader will also notice the dearth of reference to German authority. Mr. Dimsdale shows no sign of critical indebtedness to Germany, and makes also no mention of German editions. To *omne . . . ignotum* people it will no doubt be a matter of surprise that a scholarly account of Latin literature can be written from sources not German. Mr. Dimsdale's only considerable modern non-English source is René Pichon.

One paragraph on Catullus will serve as an illustration of Mr. Dimsdale's literary style and his manner of appreciation (148):

The lyrics of Catullus represent an achievement new in Latin literature, and one which was never again realised in equal perfection. Perhaps the most succinct characterization of their qualities is contained in the phrase "passionate simplicity" applied to them by Fénelon. The emotions of a sensitive temperament seized at their supreme moment have been fixed forever in language of undying charm. For simple as the diction is—it is that of ordinary conversation, and here and there is only saved from being prosaic by the perfect collocation of the words—it is pure and dainty, and in the poems of love and friendship rendered more endearing by the use of those caressing diminutives, native to the soil of Italy and still persistent upon it, which the Augustans did so ill a service to erotic poetry by seeking to discard.

The quality of Mr. Dimsdale's work may be further indicated by a few specimens of the numerous passages in his own translation with which the book is illustrated.

Homo sum: humani nihil a me alienum puto.  
"I am a man, mankind's affairs are mine".

Nerei repandirostrum incurvicervicum pecus.  
"Nereus' spatulous-snouted, bent-backed flock".

Frigidus in silvis Aquilo decussit honorem.  
"The cold North wind  
Has shaken down the glory of the woods".

Odi et amo. Quare id faciam, fortasse requiris.  
Nescio, sed fieri sentio et excrucior.  
"I hate and love: the cause I cannot tell.  
Only I feel it, and to feel is hell".

Soles occidere et redire possunt:  
Nobis, cum semel occidit brevis lux,  
nox est perpetua una dormienda.  
"Suns may set and rise as bright,  
But, once quenched our little light,  
We must sleep one endless night".

Cras amet qui numquam amavit, quique amavit cras  
amet.  
"Loveless, mayst thou love to-morrow; loving, still  
to-morrow love".

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, GRANT SHOWERMAN.

Archaeological Excavation. By J. P. Droop. Cambridge: at the University Press (1915). Pp. X + 80. \$1.00.

Not the least of the achievements for which the closing decades of the nineteenth century will remain memorable is the development of the science of archaeology. The old haphazard digging for treasures enriched museums but contributed little to an adequate understanding of the place and the period to which a given object belonged. The primary aim of the new science, however, is the methodical and accurate reconstruction of the life and history of the past. As thus conceived, it is the fellow handmaid of geology, history, and anthropology in the service of knowledge. In the words of Mr. Droop (page 1):

The archaeologist's general aim on approaching a new site should be to draw from it all the knowledge that he can, to unearth as complete a skeleton as possible of the history of that particular spot during the period when it was human habitation. Unless that period belongs to times when men wrote what can now be read, he can hardly hope to uncover perfect history, but the more complete the dry bones that he lays bare the better the chance that they will rise again as history when imagination shall have prophesied to them.

Mr. Droop's book is a fascinating essay on what he would call "the art of digging" written (page X)

with the idea chiefly of entertaining the many who by their interest and subscriptions have helped in the work of recovering the past, and partly in the hope that, if it makes even slightly for the accomplishment of better work in the future, it may not have been written in vain.

Both expectations bid fair to be realized; for the general reader will find an excellent account of the

processes and the principles that underlie archaeological research, and the excavator who would, in future, dare to transgress "the new decalogue for the fraternity", expounded in Chapter V, will be in no danger of falling from grace, for he is damned already.

Chapter I, General, treats of the aims of the excavator and the organization of his staff. In Chapter II, Particular, the author discusses digging, systems of tips, the importance of observing stratification, trial trenches, dumping, first aid to the finds, the necessity for copious field notes, and the choosing of a site. A propos of the last, Mr. Droop observes (31):

the surest indication of ancient habitation is the presence of ancient potsherds, which being both characteristic of their period and indestructible make the most descriptive of labels; intrinsically, too, they are as valueless as the stones on the hillside, so that they are not likely to have been moved except possibly downhill by the forces of denudation, and in Greece if none are to be found the spot is probably not worth consideration.

The qualifications of the excavator form the subject of Chapter IV. These are many—a knowledge of archaeology, of directing men, of rudimentary civil engineering, of drawing, of photography, of chemistry, of anthropology, of the workers's vernacular, tact, and "lastly, he should have digested this essay". In Chapter V, Some Questions of Morality, Mr. Droop expounds in vigorous fashion the new decalogue, and in Chapter VI he offers sage counsel as to the manner and time of publication. Chapter VII, Epilogue, is a protest against the cooperation between men and women in excavation, graphically styled the "mixed dig". Finally, five Appendices deal briefly with (A) the use of the dumpy level; (B) triangular mensuration; (C) graphic publication; (D) causes of dishonesty among workmen, and (E) archaeological inferences. An Index completes the volume.

Mr. Droop writes with the authority of a trained archaeologist whose achievements entitle him to pronounce judgment. His little book, written in a lucid and cogent style, ought, therefore, to find a ready welcome at the hands of all who are interested in the progress of archaeological research.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

J. G. WINTER.

### THE NEW YORK LATIN CLUB

The first meeting of The Classical Forum, for 1916-1917, was held Saturday, December 9, at Hunter College.

Mr. E. E. Bogert, a member of the Committee appointed by the State Education Department for Revision of the Syllabus in Latin, discussed the following topics: (1) The Aim and Content of the New State Syllabus in Latin for the First Two Years, and (2) Should the revised Syllabus for Third Year Latin prescribe the study of selected letters of Cicero as a substitute for one of the six required orations?

The movement for drafting a new course in Latin was the outcome of a paper read at Syracuse, December, 1915, by Dr. S. Dwight Arms, New York State Specialist in Classics, in which he referred to the great unrest among schoolmen over the content of Latin in the

present syllabus, and a feeling that better material should be selected and that more emphasis should be put on the resources of Latin as affecting derivatives in English and the understanding and appreciation of the mother tongue.

The tentative draft of the proposed New Syllabus outlines the work in vocabulary, inflection, syntax, derivation, oral work and reading, prescribing most of that work.

Aside from the stress placed upon word study and oral work (including dictation), the chief departure is in the material to be read: in the first year selections from Eutropius, Viri Romae, and the Perseus in Ritchie's *Fabulae Faciles*; in the third half-year thirty pages, including the story of the Argonauts (in the *Fabulae Faciles*), the story of Hannibal, and Caesar 1.1-13, 24, 59, 54; in the fourth half-year, sixty pages, consisting of Caesar 2.1-18, 3.12-16, 4.20-38, 6.9-28, 7.1-10, 63-90. The reading, especially for the third and fourth half-years, is definitely prescribed.

This programme, it is urged, would eliminate the gap between the second and the third half-years. According to this program, further, the prescribed reading would supplant sight reading.

Professor Knapp pointed out that the conclusions reached by Dr. Arms's Committee were very similar to those reached by a Committee of the National Education Association which is a part of the Commission on the Reorganization of Secondary Education (for a very brief outline of the views of that Committee see *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* 8.184). The aim of both Committees is to devote a longer period to the beginner's preparation so that progress later will be more rapid. But the Committee of the National Education Association has not deemed it wise to prescribe fixedly, as the other Committee does, the reading and other work.

On the motion of Professor Knapp it was resolved that the State Education Department be most urgently asked to have the tentative syllabus printed and a copy sent to every teacher of Latin in New York State for examination and criticism before its final adoption by the State Board.

On the motion of Dr. Tibbetts, a committee of three was appointed to prepare a list of questions on the Syllabus to be sent (at the expense of the Club) to every member. The replies will be tabulated and sent to Dr. Arms's Committee.

Mr. Bogart then discussed the content of Third Year Latin, using the article, Comments Upon the Present Latin Course for High Schools, in *The Classical Journal* 11.151-163. He submitted arguments for the omission of the Pro Archia and the Second Oration against Catiline, and the substitution for them of selected letters of Cicero, Sallust's Catiline, Pro Marcello, Pro Ligario, or De Senectute.

JANE GRAY CARTER, *Censor*.

### THE NEW YORK LATIN CLUB SECOND MEETING, 1916-1917

The New York Latin Club will hold its second meeting for the current academic year on Saturday, February 10, in Hunter College (entrance on Lexington Avenue) at 11:30. Luncheon will be served after the meeting. After the luncheon, Mr. John Jay Chapman, well known for his championship of the classics, though he has no professional interest in them, will address the club. Those who intend to be present at the luncheon are requested to notify Dr. Jane Gray Carter, at Hunter College. Tickets to the luncheon may be obtained from Dr. William F. Tibbetts, Curtis High School, New Brighton, Staten Island, New York.